

REMARKS

Favorable consideration of this application is respectfully requested.

Claim(s) 2-10, 12, 13, and 15-24 are currently active in this case. Claims 22-24 have been added, Claims 2, 4, 5, 10, 12, 15, 17, and 18, and 21 have been amended, and Claims 1, 11, 14, have been cancelled by way of the present amendment. Each amended claim is supported by the specification and claims as originally submitted and no new matter has been added.

In the outstanding Office Action, Claims 1, 2, 4-8, 10-12, 14-15, 17-19, and 21 were rejected as being unpatentable under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) over *Nguyen* (U.S. Patent No. 5,797,089) in view of *Pardo* (U.S. Patent No. 6,266,539) and *Rahamim* (U.S. Patent No. 6,657,101).

Applicants appreciatively acknowledge the Examiner's identification of allowable subject matter in Claims 3, 9, 13, 16, and 20.

Applicants have amended Claims 2, 4, 5, 10, 12, 15, 17, and 18, and 21 to be dependent upon claims allowed in the previous office action. All remaining dependent claims also depend either directly or indirectly from the same allowed claims. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully submit that each claim incorporates allowable subject matter.

Applicants respectfully request consideration of new claims 22-24, which are also dependent upon claims already allowed. New Claims 22-24 are supported by the specification and claims as originally submitted. Claim 22 is supported by the original disclosure at page 15, lines 8-14 and page 23 lines 13-21, et al.; Claim 23 is supported by the original disclosure at page 15, line 15 through page 16 line 7, et al.; and Claim 24 is supported by the original disclosure

at page 17, line 19 through page 18, line 18, et al. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully submit that no new matter has been added.

Since each claim currently active has either been allowed, or is ultimately dependent from a claim already allowed, Applicants respectfully submit that each claim is patentable.

Consequently, no further issues are believed to be outstanding, and it is respectfully submitted that this case is in condition for allowance. An early and favorable action is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,
REED SMITH LLP

Date: June 3, 2004

By: 

Name: John W. Carpenter
Registration No. 39,129

Two Embarcadero Center
Suite 2000
PO Box 7936
San Francisco, CA 94120-7936
Direct Dial (415) 659-5927
(415) 543-8700 Telephone
(415) 391-8269 Facsimile